

**Board of Education  
East China School District**

**Regular Board Meeting  
November 23, 2020**

The Board of Education of the East China School District met in regular session on Monday, November 23, 2020 with President Jeanne Frank presiding.

Board Members Present: Jeanne Frank, Todd Distelrath, Michael Westrick, Pat Biebuyck and Karen Cedar

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

Board Members Absent: Amy Murphy, Lynn Griffor

**MEMBERS  
ABSENT**

Administrators Present: Dawn Demick, Lindsay Grange, Craig Headlee, Tina Thrift

**ADMINISTRATORS  
PRESENT**

Special Guest: Justin Westmiller, St. Clair County Homeland Security and Emergency Management

The meeting was called to order by President Jeanne Frank, at 6:02 p.m.

*Jeanne Frank* wished everyone a Happy and healthy Thanksgiving. She thanked all East China School District staff members for all of their work over the past several months. She also expressed her appreciation to the parents, grandparents, and guardians of our students who have supported their children and the District. President Frank recommended that all caregivers visit the At Home Learning Resources found on the District's website. There is a Ted Talk on Internet Safety and other great resources on the website that will help the entire school community through this transition. She also congratulated Pat Biebuyck, Todd Distelrath, and Michael Westrick on their election to the School Board. *Todd Distelrath* congratulated the St. Clair Boys Tennis Team on finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State, the St. Clair Boys Cross Country Team for finishing 7<sup>th</sup> in the State, and the Marine City Mariner Football Team which is currently in the top eight. *Superintendent Suzanne Cybulla* also expressed her congratulations to Pat Biebuyck, Todd Distelrath, and Michael Westrick on their election to the School Board. She indicated the Board and District have several exciting projects to look forward to in the coming months

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

Motion by Karen Cedar supported by Todd Distelrath to approve items under the consent agenda as presented:

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

- a. Minutes
  - i. October 26, 2020, regular meeting
- b. Payment of Bills:

- General Fund in the amount of \$3,262,890.58.
  - Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$162, 059.55.
  - Latchkey Fund in the amount of \$3,291.96.
  - 2006 Sinking Fund in the amount of \$3,444.00.
  - Internal Service Fund in the amount of \$11,253.41.
  - Capital Projects in the amount of \$255,701.28.
  - Student Activity - \$38,903.08.
- c. Financial Statement
- d. Schedule of Investments

Motion Approved 5-0.

*None.*

*Suzanne Cybulla* provided the Board with an update on the District’s Extended Continuity of Learning Plan. Per the MDHHS order, Grades 9-12 pivoted to remote learning effective November 18, 2020. In addition, due to the alarming increase in Covid-19 cases in St. Clair County, the District will be pivoting to remote learning for PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grades beginning November 30. As of Friday, St. Clair County is at a 15.4% positivity rate compared to a positivity rate of 3.8% on October 23. The average number of cases per day in St. Clair County has increased from 23.9 to 111. In the East China School District specifically, the number of quarantined students and staff is ranging between 150-200 a day and the number of positive cases has doubled in the last week. *Justin Westmiller*, St. Clair County Director of Homeland Security/Emergency Management, expressed his appreciation to the District for its good decision in pivoting to remote learning. He added that as of Monday, the County is now experiencing a 16.5% positivity rate, a 1.1% increase since Friday. *Tina Thrift* informed the Board that the summer tax collection will be voted on at the December meeting. She explained that the District collects the summer taxes in order to avoid borrowing in the summer to cover our payroll while waiting for State aid to be distributed. *Dawn Demick* explained the MIOSHA Emergency Rule 5(8), dated October 14, 2020, requires all businesses to adopt a temporary remote work policy. The policy must provide for remote work for employees to the extent that work activities cannot feasibly be performed remotely. The Thrun Law Firm has developed a model policy for school districts that addresses all provisions of this temporary rule. Currently, the rule is in effect through April 14, 2021.

Motion by Pat Biebuyck supported by Karen Cedar to approve the temporary remote work policy in accordance with MIOSHA Emergency Rule 5(8).

Motion Approved 5-0

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**MIOSHA  
EMERGENCY RULE**

There being no further business before the Board, President Jeanne Frank declared the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Demick  
Assistant Superintendent of Personnel